

**PRE-SHAPED DENTAL TRAYS AND TREATMENT DEVICES
AND METHODS THAT UTILIZE SUCH DENTAL TRAYS**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

*Pending
of issue
you*

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of copending U.S. application Serial No. 10/350,629, filed January 24, 2003. The foregoing application is incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. The Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention is in the field of dental trays used to provide a desired dental treatment to a person's teeth. More particularly, the invention relates to pre-shaped, non-custom dental trays that are useful in applying a dental treatment composition to a person's teeth (e.g., a dental bleaching composition).

2. The Relevant Technology

[0003] Virtually all people desire white or whiter teeth. To achieve this goal, people either have veneers placed over their teeth or have their teeth chemically bleached. In the past, patients who desired to have their teeth bleached had to submit to conventional in-office bleaching techniques. The process generally involves: (1) making an alginate impression of the patient's teeth; (2) making a stone cast or model of the impression; (3) vacuum forming a dental tray from the model, usually from a heated sheet of thin ethyl vinyl acetate (EVA) material, and (4) trimming to exclude gingival coverage. This method results in a tray that is soft and flexible, that is customized to very accurately fit over the patient's teeth, and that

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